

What is claimed is:

1. A body frame of a vehicle, comprising:  
a frame member provided in one of a front portion and a rear portion of the  
5 vehicle; and  
a load imposing device, provided at an end of the frame member, for imposing  
a load on the frame member toward at least two opposite directions which are  
substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the frame member, when  
impact on the frame member is anticipated or imposed.  
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2. A body frame as claimed in claim 1, wherein the load imposing device has a  
member made of a shape memory alloy.
3. A body frame as claimed in claim 1, wherein the load imposing device has a  
15 spring.
4. A body frame as claimed in claim 3, wherein the spring is one of a coil spring  
and a plate spring.
- 20 5. A body frame as claimed in claim 1, wherein the load imposing device has a  
band-shaped member made of a shape memory alloy, which is wound along one of an  
outer-peripheral wall and an inner-peripheral wall of the frame member.